

ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENTION TO OFFER MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 2670, DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 7c of rule XXII, I hereby announce my intention to offer a motion to instruct conferees tomorrow on H.R. 2670, the Commerce/Justice/State appropriations bill.

Mr. Speaker, the form of the motion is as follows:

Mr. TANCREDO moves that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 2670, be instructed to agree, to the extent within the scope of the conference, to provisions that, one, reduce nonessential spending in programs authorized within the Departments of Commerce, Justice and State, the Judiciary and other related agencies; and, two, reduce spending on international organizations, in particular, in order to honor the commitment of the Congress to protect Social Security; and, three, do not increase overall spending to a level that exceeds the higher of the House bill or the Senate amendment.

ALABAMA REJECTS PLAN FOR A LOTTERY

(Mr. WOLF asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material.)

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I want to call to the attention of my colleagues today's headlines: Alabama Rejects the Plan for a Lottery, AP. Fifty-four percent of the voters in Alabama rejected a State-sponsored lottery yesterday. The Crimson Tide has rejected a lottery in their State, and perhaps this is a shift that will change the tide of gambling in America.

According to news reports, the tide is expected to wash over South Carolina, where a referendum to ban video poker is expected to also pass.

I want to congratulate the people of Alabama for standing up and voting against State-sponsored gambling, and I hope others around the country will take note of what has occurred at the ballot box.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to, at this point, submit this material for the record.

MONTGOMERY, AL. (AP)—Gov. Don Siegelman, who lobbied long and hard for a state lottery to help fund education, watched the measure collapse in defeat at the hands of voters unwilling to cross their ministers.

With 98 percent of precincts reporting, 663,988 people, or 54 percent, opposed the lottery referendum Tuesday, and 559,377 people, or 46 percent, supported it. Turnout was estimated at 50 percent.

The proposal—a constitutional amendment to allow gambling—had once enjoyed a 20-point lead in the polls but came under in-

creasing fire from church groups who said it would exploit the poor.

Other opponents also claimed that a recent traffic ticket-fixing scandal showed that the Democratic governor's administration could not be trusted to oversee gambling in the state.

Alabama joins Arkansas, Oklahoma and North Dakota as states that have rejected lotteries at the ballot box. Thirty-seven states and the District of Columbia have approved them.

The loss was a stinging blow to Siegelman, who had made the referendum's passage a cornerstone of his 1998 election victory over Republican Fob James.

"In my inaugural address, I said that we would dare mighty things. I said that we would try new things and if they didn't work we would try something else," Siegelman said after the votes were counted.

He said the results "only serve to motivate me and to energize me in our fight and our quest to change education in this state forever."

Along with the lottery proposal, two other proposed constitutional amendments were on the ballot, and voters in Birmingham and Montgomery chose candidates for mayor and city council members.

In Birmingham, Alabama's largest city, interim Mayor William Bell led a 14-way race for the mayorship but was forced into a Nov. 2 runoff against City Councilman Bernard Kincaid.

In Montgomery, conservative Mayor Emory Folmar led six opponents in his bid for a seventh term but was forced into a runoff against Bobby Bright, a lawyer backed by organized labor.

Siegelman had promised that the lottery would generate at least \$150 million annually to fund college scholarships, a pre-kindergarten program and computer technology in schools.

"He has put everything on this," said Auburn University at Montgomery political analyst Brad Moody. "He has made it the centerpiece of his campaign and the centerpiece of his first year in office. He has thrown all his political capital away."

Sheila Bird was among those who voted against the lottery even though her 2-year-old daughter Amanda could have one day benefited from the plan.

"I just feel like it's morally wrong. I feel like it's going to cause problems in lower income families," she said. "I think you can get money other ways."

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

DEMOCRATS WHO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE ARE ALSO RELIGIOUS PEOPLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening because I listened to several of my Republican colleagues on the floor last night, and I was very dis-

turbed by what I heard. The Members implied that because Democrats continue to support separation of church and State we are not religious people. As a child growing up in Jacksonville, Florida, the district I now represent, my religion was the cornerstone of my life. It still is today. In fact, my church is more to me than a place I visit on Sunday. It is my home. It is a family gathering place and it is a real part of the community I represent.

My Republican colleagues would have people believe that Democrats are anti-faith. This is a lie. Democrats believe in the separation of church and State. We believe that every person has the right to choose their religion. We do not believe it is up to the House of Representatives to dictate how and where our faith should be expressed. Our constituents did not elect us to be their spiritual leaders. They do not turn to C-SPAN for healing. Rather, they expect us to vote for the programs and policies that mirrors their beliefs. This is how they judge us.

Do we support Head Start and school lunch programs, education? Do we support saving Social Security and protecting public education? This is the reason we have been sent to Washington, not to preach but to support the things that are important to the people who sent us here.

OUR TRADE DEFICIT IS STILL GROWING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, earlier today my good friend, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT), spoke on this floor about our trade deficit. He pointed out that our trade deficit in the last quarter hit an all-time record of \$87 billion. If that keeps up, it would be an astounding \$350 billion for the full year, meaning that we are buying that much more from other countries than they are buying from us.

Most economists agree that we lose, conservatively, 20,000 jobs per billion, meaning we would lose 7 million jobs to other countries in one year if our trade deficit stays at the rate of this last quarter. Many people believe we are losing these jobs, that we have this unbelievable trade deficit in large part because of bad trade deals, trade deals good for big multinational companies but very harmful to small American businesses and American workers.

The Christian Science Monitor, one of the leading national newspapers, had this on its front page recently, quote, "America's widening trade deficit, now more than \$25 billion a month, is starting to cause concern in the top echelons of the United States."

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"While the trade gap has been growing for years, it is becoming large